Amendment submitted in response
to Office Action mailed 06/14/2007
U.S. Pat App. No. 09/269,618
October 15, 2007
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims

Claims have been reproduced below for the convenience of the Examiner.

Claims 1-74 (cancelled)

Claim 75 (currently amended): A method for transferring a value representing a commodity in an electronic transaction comprising:

      providing a buyer value note, the buyer value note including a buyer public key, the value, and a first bank signature, wherein the buyer value note is in a first electronic message form;

      appending the buyer value note with a seller public key;

      endorsing the buyer value note with a buyer endorsement signature such that the buyer endorsement signature is verified with the buyer public key;

      creating a seller value note, the seller value note including a seller public key and the value, wherein the seller value note is in a second electronic message form; and

      endorsing the seller value note with a second bank signature whereby the value is transferred to the seller.

Claim 76 (previously presented): The method of claim 75 further comprising:

      after the creating a seller value note,

            disassociating the buyer public key and the buyer endorsement signature from the seller value note; and

            deleting the buyer public key and the buyer endorsement signature such that the seller value note is anonymous with respect to the buyer value note.

Claim 77 (previously presented): The method of claim 75 wherein the buyer value note further comprises expiry information such that the buyer value note is not redeemable outside of an expiry date.

Amendment submitted in response
to Office Action mailed 06/14/2007
U.S. Pat App. No. 09/269,618
October 15, 2007
Page 3

Claim 78 (previously presented): The method of claim 75 wherein the buyer value note further comprises identification information for uniquely identifying the buyer value note.

Claim 79 (previously presented): The method of claim 78 wherein the identification information is selected from the group consisting of: a date of issuance, a time of issuance, a date of expiry, a time of expiry, an identification code, and an identification string.

Claim 80 (previously presented): The method of claim 75 wherein the buyer value note further comprises a redemption time such that the buyer value note is not redeemable before the redemption time.

Claim 81 (previously presented): The method of claim 75 wherein the buyer value note further comprises a guarantee term such that the buyer value note is guaranteed only within the guarantee term.

Claim 82 (currently amended): A method for transferring at least a portion of a value representing a commodity in an electronic transaction comprising:

providing a first buyer value note, the first buyer value note including a buyer public key, a value, and a first bank signature, wherein the buyer value note is in a first electronic message form;

appending the first buyer value note with a seller public key, a previously presented value representing the at least the portion of the value, a change value representing the value less the previously presented value, and a buyer change public key;

endorsing the first buyer value note with a buyer endorsement signature such that the buyer endorsement signature is verified with the buyer public key;

creating a seller value note, the seller value note including a seller public key and the previously presented value, wherein the seller value note is in a second electronic message form;

endorsing the seller value note with a second bank signature whereby the previously presented value is transferred to the seller;

creating a second buyer value note, the second buyer value note including the buyer change public key and the change value; and

Amendment submitted in response
to Office Action mailed 06/14/2007
U.S. Pat App. No. 09/269,618
October 15, 2007
Page 4

endorsing the second buyer value note with a third bank signature whereby the change value is retained by the buyer.

Claim 83 (previously presented): The method of claim 82 further comprising:

after the creating a seller value note,

disassociating the buyer public key and the buyer endorsement signature from the seller value note; and

deleting the buyer public key and the buyer endorsement signature such that the seller value note is anonymous with respect to the buyer value note.

Claim 84 (previously presented): The method of claim 82 wherein the buyer value note further comprises expiry information such that the buyer value note is not redeemable outside of an expiry date.

Claim 85 (previously presented): The method of claim 82 wherein the buyer value note further comprises identification information for uniquely identifying the buyer value note.

Claim 86 (previously presented): The method of claim 85 wherein the identification information is selected from the group consisting of: a date of issuance, a time of issuance, a date of expiry, a time of expiry, an identification code, and an identification string.

Claim 87 (previously presented): The method of claim 82 wherein the buyer value note further comprises a redemption time such that the buyer value note is not redeemable before the redemption time.

Claim 88 (previously presented): The method of claim 82 wherein the buyer value note further comprises a guarantee term such that the buyer value note is guaranteed only within the guarantee term.

Claim 94 (currently amended): A system for electronically transferring a value representing a commodity comprising:

Amendment submitted in response
to Office Action mailed 06/14/2007
U.S. Pat App. No. 09/269,618
October 15, 2007
Page 5

means for generating a digital signature wherein the digital signature is verifiable with a public key;

means for generating a value note corresponding with a value, the value note encrypted with the digital signature, wherein the value note is in an electronic message form;

means for endorsing the value note such that the value note is validated;

means for appending the value note with exchange information; and

means for generating a previously presented value note corresponding with the exchange information such that the value is transferred to the previously presented value note.

Claim 95 (previously presented): The system of claim 94 further comprising:

means for dissociating the previously presented value note from the value note; and

means for verifying the exchange information.

Claim 96 (previously presented): The system of claim 94 wherein the exchange information is selected from the group consisting of: expiry information, identification information, redemption information, and guarantee term information.

Claim 97 (new): A method for transferring a value representing a commodity in an electronic transaction comprising:

providing a buyer value note, the buyer value note including a buyer public key, the value, and a first bank signature;

appending the buyer value note with a seller public key;

endorsing the buyer value note with a buyer endorsement signature such that the buyer endorsement signature is verified with the buyer public key;

creating a seller value note, the seller value note including a seller public key and the value;

disassociating the buyer public key and the buyer endorsement signature from the seller value note;

deleting the buyer public key and the buyer endorsement signature such that the seller value note is anonymous with respect to the buyer value note; and

Amendment submitted in response
to Office Action mailed 06/14/2007
U.S. Pat App. No. 09/269,618
October 15, 2007
Page 6

endorsing the seller value note with a second bank signature whereby the value is transferred to the seller.

Claim 98 (new): The method of claim 97 wherein the buyer value note further comprises expiry information such that the buyer value note is not redeemable outside of an expiry date.

Claim 99 (new): The method of claim 97 wherein the buyer value note further comprises identification information for uniquely identifying the buyer value note.

Claim 100 (new): The method of claim 99 wherein the identification information is selected from the group consisting of: a date of issuance, a time of issuance, a date of expiry, a time of expiry, an identification code, and an identification string.

Claim 101 (new): The method of claim 97 wherein the buyer value note further comprises a redemption time such that the buyer value note is not redeemable before the redemption time.

Claim 102 (new): The method of claim 97 wherein the buyer value note further comprises a guarantee term such that the buyer value note is guaranteed only within the guarantee term.

Claim 103 (new): A method for transferring at least a portion of a value representing a commodity in an electronic transaction comprising:

providing a first buyer value note, the first buyer value note including a buyer public key, a value, and a first bank signature;

appending the first buyer value note with a seller public key, a new value representing the at least the portion of the value, a change value representing the value less the new value, and a buyer change public key;

endorsing the first buyer value note with a buyer endorsement signature such that the buyer endorsement signature is verified with the buyer public key;

creating a seller value note, the seller value note including a seller public key and the new value;

Amendment submitted in response
to Office Action mailed 06/14/2007
U.S. Pat App. No. 09/269,618
October 15, 2007
Page 7

endorsing the seller value note with a second bank signature whereby the new value is transferred to the seller;

creating a second buyer value note, the second buyer value note including the buyer change public key and the change value;

disassociating the buyer public key and the buyer endorsement signature from the seller value note;

deleting the buyer public key and the buyer endorsement signature such that the seller value note is anonymous with respect to the buyer value note; and

endorsing the second buyer value note with a third bank signature whereby the change value is retained by the buyer.

Claim 104 (new): The method of claim 103 wherein the buyer value note further comprises expiry information such that the buyer value note is not redeemable outside of an expiry date.

Claim 105 (new): The method of claim 103 wherein the buyer value note further comprises identification information for uniquely identifying the buyer value note.

Claim 106 (new): The method of claim 105 wherein the identification information is selected from the group consisting of: a date of issuance, a time of issuance, a date of expiry, a time of expiry, an identification code, and an identification string.

Claim 107 (new): The method of claim 103 wherein the buyer value note further comprises a redemption time such that the buyer value note is not redeemable before the redemption time.

Claim 108 (new): The method of claim 103 wherein the buyer value note further comprises a guarantee term such that the buyer value note is guaranteed only within the guarantee term.